

## **Column: Correct grammar, spelling important for everyone**

*by* ROBYN DEXTER/IN-DEPTH EDITOR  
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I'm what you'd call a grammar Nazi.

I'm that girl who corrects the "your" and "you're"s on Facebook.

I'm that girl who everyone secretly hates, but you can't actually hate me because I'm technically right. Every time I open my Facebook, my news feed drives me up a wall.

It's amazing to me the number of Facebook friends I have who can't spell or punctuate a basic status update or wall post.

I understand social media isn't the number one place where people care about spelling and grammar, but please have some decency and some sort of intelligence.

After thinking about it, I've realized that it's not even so much about the grammar itself being wrong; it's the fact that a lot of people in our generation genuinely do not understand concepts that we are supposed to be fully aware of since fourth grade.

I'm 21 years old and about to complete my junior year of college this semester.

I know future employers can see my Twitter, my Facebook and my blog.

As a journalist, it's important to me that everything I post on any form of social media portrays an age-appropriate level of intelligence.

I wish I could convey the importance of good grammar and spelling to all my peers, but as I said, people just tend to judge me for it.

But as you're judging me, I'm judging you and your inability to know the difference between "are" and "our."

As future professionals, there will always be some form of writing to be done, regardless of where your major takes you.

Whether you make a career out of writing, teaching, sports management, business or some form of science, writing will always be there.

A simple way to impress your superiors is by being able to word things maturely and professionally, so why not practice now?

I could go on and on about learning the difference between words that sound the same, correct usage of apostrophes and basic spelling, but I won't.

It's something that too often gets overlooked in higher education, but sometimes students really do need to brush up on their grammar in basic general education classes.

I want to encourage everyone around my age, especially those who will be entering the job market in the next few years, to brush up on the basics.

Something so simple could be the difference between getting a job and not getting a job a few years down the road.

Posting “hey im going too tims tonite, r u comming” makes me want to gouge my eyes out, and it drove me nuts to even type that phrase.

Chances are, it would make your future employers feel the same way.

Next time you go to post on your buddy’s wall on a Friday night, think before you comment.

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*Eastern News*[Charleston, IL] 17 Sept 2012, Opinion. Web. 30 Sep. 2012. <[http://www.dennews.com/opinion/columns/column-correct-grammar-spelling-important-for-everyone/article\\_14eacc3c-0136-11e2-9ad4-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.dennews.com/opinion/columns/column-correct-grammar-spelling-important-for-everyone/article_14eacc3c-0136-11e2-9ad4-001a4bcf6878.html)>.

1. What is the author’s purpose?

2. Who is the intended audience?

3. Write a paragraph explaining your point of view about the topic. (What is the main idea?

What do you think about it? The answers to these questions should be your topic sentence.

Why do you think so? Answers to this question will be the sentences of your paragraph that support your topic sentence.)